WYOMING'S CHILDREN 2017

Wyoming's Children at a Glance¹

State Population ²	586,107	Poverty Rate, Children Under 18 ³	13.2%
Population, Children Under 18 ⁴	139,500	Poverty Rate, Children Ages 5–17 ⁵	11.6%
State Poverty Rate ⁶	11.1%	Poverty Rate, Children Under 5 ⁷	17.5%

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- In 2015, Wyoming had 6,794 total referrals for child abuse and neglect. Of those, 3,206 reports were referred for investigation.⁸
- In 2015, there were 968 victims of abuse or neglect in Wyoming, a rate of 7.0 per 1,000 children, a an increase 12.4% from 2014. Of these children, 79.2% were neglected, 2% were physically abused, and 7.1% were sexually abused.⁹
- The number of child victims has increased 37.7% in comparison to the number of victims in 2011. 10
- In 2015, there were 2 child deaths resulting from abuse or neglect reported in Wyoming¹¹
- 1,082 children in Wyoming lived apart from their families in out-of-home care in 2015, compared with 864 children in 2011. Of the children living apart from their families in 2014, there were 326 aged 5 or younger, and 172 were 16 or older. 12
- The number of children living apart from their families in out-of-home care has increased 25.2% in comparison to the number of children in out-of-home care in 2011. 13
- In 2015, of children in out-of-home care in Wyoming, 74% were white, 4% were black, 18% were Hispanic, 2% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, < .5% were Asian or Pacific Islander and 3% were of more than one race or ethnicity/undetermined race or ethnicity.¹⁴

ADOPTION, KINSHIP CARE, AND PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

- Of the 894 children exiting out-of-home care in 2014 in Wyoming, 68% were reunited with their parents or primary caretakers.¹⁵
- 74 children were legally adopted through a public child welfare agency in Wyoming in 2015, a decrease of 1.3% from 75 in 2014.
- Of the 1,082 children in out-of-home care in 2015, there were 69 or 6.4% waiting to be adopted. 17



- In 2015, approximately 5,194 grandparents in Wyoming had the primary responsibility of caring for their grandchildren.¹⁸
- 256 of the children in out-of-home care in 2014 were living with relatives while in care. 19

CHILD POVERTY AND INCOME SUPPORT

- The monthly average number of individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Wyoming increased from 675 in 2015 to 927 in 2016, a 27.2% change. There was a 428 monthly average of families received TANF in 2016, an increase of 22.2% from 2015.²⁰
- In Wyoming in 2015, 47,000 children lived below 200% of poverty.²¹
- \$29,203,603,149 was spent in 2015 on TANF assistance in Wyoming, including 24.6% on basic assistance, 18.7% on child care, 1.5% on transportation, and 2.0% on nonassistance.²²
- \$4,074,976 was spent in 2015 on WIC (the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) in Wyoming, serving 10,995 participants.²³
- In 2014, Wyoming distributed \$65,545,303 in child support funds, an increase of 1.9% from 2013.²⁴
- 31,000 children in Wyoming lived in households with a high housing burden in 2014, where more than 30% of monthly income is spent on housing costs.²⁵
- In December of 2016, the unemployment rate in Wyoming was 4.8.²⁶
- 14% of households in Wyoming were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that the family experienced difficulty providing enough food due to lack of resources at some point during the year.²⁷

CHILD CARE AND HEAD START

- In 2015, Wyoming had a monthly average of 3,200 children served by subsidized child care. An average of 3,600 children received subsidized child care per month in 2014 and 3,900 were recepients in 2013.²⁸
- In 2016, to be eligible for subsidized child care in Wyoming, a family of three could make no more than \$37,560 at application, which is equivalent to 56% of the state's median income.²⁹
- As of early 2016, Wyoming had no children on its waiting list for child care assistance.³⁰
- In 2015, Head Start served 1,724 children in Wyoming, an increase of 3.8% from 2014.³¹
- Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Wyoming made 1,173 home visits to 182 parents and children in 92 families, as well as enrolled 99 new parents and children to the program.



HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 57,662 children in Wyoming were enrolled in Medicaid in 2015, an increase of 3.6% from 2014.³²
- In 2015, Wyoming had 5,649 children enrolled in its State Children's Health Insurance Program, a decrease of 29.9% from 2014, when 7,340 children were enrolled.³³
- In 2015, Wyoming had 10,856 uninsured children.³⁴
- 666 babies were born weighing less than 2,500 grams in Wyoming in 2015.³⁵
- 39 infants under age 1 died in Wyoming in 2015.³⁶
- In 2015, the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 17 in Wyoming was 9.7 births per 1,000 girls. The rate was 59.2 for teens ages 18 to 19. This reflects a total rate of 29 births for girls ages 15 to 19.³⁷
- Cumulative through 2015, there were 332 adults and adolescents and 2 children younger than 13 reported as having HIV/AIDS in Wyoming.³⁸
- In 2015, an estimated Less than 500 children ages 12 to 17 were alcohol dependent in the past year and 18,000 adults age 18 and older were dependent on alcohol or used heroin in the past year in Wyoming.³⁹
- In 2014, approximately 1,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for alcohol use in the past year.⁴⁰
- In 2014, approximately 1,000 children ages 12 to 17 needed but had not received treatment for illicit drug use in the past year.⁴¹
- In 2015, health care costs related to opioid abuse in Wyoming reached \$26,915,476.

VULNERABLE YOUTH

- 12 children in Wyoming aged out of out-of-home care—exited foster care to emancipation—in 2015.42
- 77% of high school students in Wyoming graduated on time at the end of the 2012-13 year.⁴³
- 3,000 teens ages 16 to 19 in Wyoming were not enrolled in school and not working in 2015.⁴⁴
- 8,000 young adults ages 18 to 24 were not enrolled in school, were not working, and had no degree beyond high school in 2015.⁴⁵
- 37.3% of young adults in Wyoming ages 25 to 34 had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.46
- In 2015, there were no reports of children in Wyoming aged 10 to 14 committing suicide, and 15 reports of suicide among children aged 15 to 19.⁴⁷



JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

- 11 children under age 19 were killed by a firearm in Wyoming in 2015, compared to 11 in 2014.
- 3,239 children younger than 18 were arrested in Wyoming in 2015. Violent crimes were the reason for 46 of the arrests in 2015.⁴⁹
- 165 children lived in juvenile correction facilities in Wyoming in 2013.⁵⁰

CHILD WELFARE WORKFORCE⁵¹

- The federal Child and Family Service Reviews have clearly demonstrated that the more time a caseworker spends with a child and family, the better the outcomes for those children and families.⁵²
- According to a 2003 GAO report, the average caseload for child welfare/foster care caseworkers is 24–31 children; these high caseloads contribute to high worker turnover and insufficient services being provided to children and families. CWLA recommends that foster care caseworkers have caseloads of 12–15 children.⁵³
- Average turnover rates for child welfare agencies range from 20% to 40%.⁵⁴ Turnover rates at around 10% are considered to be optimal in any agency.⁵⁵
- Caseworker turnover has negative outcomes for children in the child welfare system, including placement disruptions and increased time in out-of-home care.⁵⁶
- According to the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being II baseline report, 75% of caseworkers earned a salary between \$30,000 and \$49,999.⁵⁷
- The majority of caseworkers hold a bachelor's degree (52.3%) or a bachelor of social work degree (21.9%). Only 25% of caseworkers hold a master's degree.⁵⁸
- A workload model in Colorado found that approximately 574 additional caseworkers were needed in their state to
 adequately provide child welfare services, due to estimated time requirements for meaningful services. This
 number represents a 49% increase that is needed on top of hours already spent on case related tasks.⁵⁹

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

• In 2014, Wyoming's sum of expenditures for services totaled \$2,807,926. The most utilized service in Wyoming was Foster Care Services for Children totaling \$900,098.⁶⁰

FUNDING CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR WYOMING'S CHILDREN

• In 2014, Wyoming spent \$38,125,996 for child welfare services. Child welfare services are all direct and administrative services the state agency provides to children and families. Of this amount, \$19,662,321 was from federal funds and \$18,463,675 was from state and local funds.⁶¹



- In 2014, of the \$19,662,321 in federal funds received for child welfare, 7.9% was from Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, 2.6% came from Title IV-B Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families, 0% was from Medicaid, 12.5% came from Social Services Block Grant, 76% was from TANF, and 1.1% came from other federal sources. 62
- Wyoming received \$1,353,617 in federal funds for IV-E foster care expenditures in 2014, including \$201,313 for maintenance payments and \$1,152,304 for administration, child placement, the statewide automated child welfare information system, and training.⁶³

⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 2-1: Screened-In and Screened-Out Referrals, 2014.* Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.

⁹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2010-2014.* Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). Child Maltreatment 2014: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-7: Maltreatment Types of Victims, 2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf. Note: The percentage difference is a CWLA calculation. Overlap in the percentages of types of abuse is possible as a child may have experienced more than one type of abuse.

¹⁰U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Report from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 3-3: Child Victims, 2010-2014.* Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.

¹¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child Maltreatment 2014: Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System: Table 4-2: Child Fatalities*, 2010-2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf.

¹² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). FY 2005 – FY 2014 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year: Numbers of Children In Foster Care on September 30th, by State FY 2005–FY 2014. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from_http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children_in_care_2014.pdf.

Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Age Group, 2013, <1 and 1-5 age groups (Number). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6244-children-in-foster-care-by-age-group#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/1889,2616/12988. Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Age Group, 2013, 16-20 age group (Number). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6244-children-in-foster-care-by-age-group#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/2619/12988.

Note: The five and younger number is a CWLA calculation.

13 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). FY 2005 – FY 2014 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year: Numbers of Children In Foster Care on September 30th, by State FY 2005–FY 2014. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from

 $\underline{http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/children_in_care_2014.pdf}.$

Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

¹⁴ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center.(2015). Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2013(Percent). Retrieved February 24, 2016 from <a href="http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6246-children-in-foster-care-by-race-and-hispanic-origin?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-52/false/36/2638,2601,2600,2598,2603,2597,2602,1353/12992,12993.

¹⁵ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2015). FY 2005 – FY 2014 Foster Care: Entries, Exits, and in Care on the Last Day of Each Federal Fiscal Year: Table:



¹ "At A Glance" statistics are from 2014.

² U.S. Census Bureau (2016). ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau (2016). Selected Economic Characteristics, 2014 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Retrieved January 28, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.

⁷ Ibid

Numbers of Children Exiting Foster Care by State FY 20045– FY 2014. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/exiting_foster_care2014.pdf.

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 Note: The percentage is a CWLA calculation.
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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

- ¹⁸ U.S. Census Bureau. (2016). American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Data Profile. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2014. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/.
- ¹⁹ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center.(2015). *Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, Child Trends, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect: Children in Foster Care by Placement Type, 2013, Foster Family Home Relative (Number).* Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/6247-children-in-foster-care-by-placement-type#detailed/2/2-52/true/36/2621/12994.
- ²⁰ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). Data & Reports: TANF Caseload Data 2015: Table: Total Recipients. Retrieved February 1, 2016 from_ http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-caseload-data-2015.
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Note: The percent differences are CWLA calculations.

- ²¹ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2015) A State by State Look at TANF: State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Programs Do Not Provide Adequate Safety Net for Poor Families: TANF Provides a Safety Net to Few Poor Families: Map TANF-to-poverty ratio: # of families receiving TANF benefits for every 100 poor families with children (2013-2014). Retrieved February 1, 2016 from_http://www.cbpp.org/state-temporary-assistance-for-needy-families-programs-do-not-provide-adequate-safety-net-for-poor.
- ²² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). *TANF Financial Data FY 2014: Table B.1.: Federal TANF and State MOE Expenditures on Assistance in FY 2014.* Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-financial-data-fy-2014.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance. (2015). *TANF Financial Data FY 2014: Table B.2.: Summary of Federal TANF and State MOE Expenditures in FY 2014.* Retrieved February 1, 2016 from_http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-financial-data-fy-2014.

Note: The percentages are a CWLA calculation.

- ²³ USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. (2016). *Program Data: WIC Program: Monthly Data State Level Participation by Category and Program Costs: Table: WIC Program—Total Number of Participants.* Retrieved February 1, 2016 from http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program.
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- ²⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement. (2015). *FY2014 Preliminary Report*. Retrieved February 2, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/css/resource/fy-2014-preliminary-report.
- ²⁵ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2014). *Population Reference Bureau, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey: Children Living in Households with a High Housing Cost Burden by Race, by State, 2013, Total Race (Number)*. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/7244-children-living-in-households-with-a-high-housing-cost-burden?loc=1&loct=2#detailed/2/2-52/false/36,868,867,133,38/any/14287,14288.
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 ²⁷ Ibid.



- ²⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2015). FY 2014 Preliminary Data Table 1 Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Families and Children Served. Retrieved February 2, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fy-2014-preliminary-data-table-1.
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- ²⁹ Schulman, K. & Blank, H. (2015). *National Women's Law Center, Building blocks, state child care assistance policies 2015*. Retrieved March February 16, 2016 from http://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/CC_RP_Building_Blocks_Assistance_Policies_2015.pdf. Note: Some states allow families, once they begin receiving assistance, to continue receiving assistance up to a higher income level than the initial limit.

³⁰ Ibid.

Note: A family that is eligible for child care assistance may not necessarily receive it. States may place families on waiting lists, or freeze intake (turning away eligible families without adding them to a waiting list).

- ³¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center, Office of Head Start. (2015). Head Start Program Facts Fiscal Year 2014. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/factsheets/2014-hs-program-factsheet.html.
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Note: The percent difference is a CWLA calculation.

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- 34 U.S. Census Bureau. (2014). Types of Health Insurance Coverage By Age, Civilian noninstitutionalized population: 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from http://www.foctfinder.census.gov/foces/tableservices/isf/nages/preductions/

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- ³⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2016). Estimated Totals by State of Substance Use & Mental Health from the 2013-2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Model-Based Estimated Totals (in Thousands) (50 States and the District of Columbia): Table 20: Dependence or Abuse of Illicit Drugs or Alcohol in the Past Year, by Age Group and State: Estimated Numbers (in Thousands), Annual Averages Based on 2013 and 2014 NSDUHs. Retrieved February 25, 2016 from http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsaeTotals2014.pdf.
- ⁴⁰ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2016). 2013-2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: Model-based estimated totals (in thousands) (50 States and the District of Columbia): Table 22: Needing but not receiving treatment for alcohol use in the past year, by age group and state: Estimated numbers (in thousands), annual averages based on 2013 and 2014 NSDUHs. Retrieved February 22, 2016 from http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHsacTotals2014.pdf.
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Note: Examples of direct services include child abuse/neglect investigations, foster care, community-based programs, case management, and all such services required for the safety, permanency, and well-being of children. Examples of administrative services include management information systems, training programs, eligibility determination processes, and all services that provide the infrastructure supports for the public agency. The component funding streams may not equal the total, depending on additional child support and demonstration funds for this state.

62 Ibid.

63 Ibid.

